

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 9 and 14 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) on Shigeru (Japan Patent Publication No. 09-007661). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to recite that “the at least one section of the connection pin has the form of a wave, wherein a first portion of the wave has a first maximum amplitude and a second portion of the wave has a second maximum amplitude, and the first maximum amplitude and the second maximum amplitude are of different sizes.” Shigeru does not disclose or suggest such features. Specifically, Shigeru fails to disclose a wave shaped connection pin having a first portion and a second portion having different maximum amplitudes. Shigeru instead discloses a connection pin having a single bent portion. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable over Shigeru.

Claim 14 has been amended in a manner similar to claim 1 and is allowable for at least the reasons detailed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 2 and 9, as well as new claims 15 and 17, depend from allowable claims and are also allowable at least due to their respective dependencies.

Claims 3 and 5 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Shigeru in view of Ptaff. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. Similar to Shigeru, Ptaff also fails to disclose or suggest a wave shaped connection pin having a first portion and a second portion having different maximum amplitudes. Ptaff instead discloses contact pins which make contact with pads that are supported by “curved beams” which are used to ensure that pressure is maintained on the contacts. Accordingly, claims 3 and 5 are allowable over Ptaff.

Claim 7 stands rejected 35 USC 103(a) on Shigeru in view of Kallee Werner (DE 19852942). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Initially, applicant notes that Kallee Werner does not disclose or suggest a socket device “wherein the at least one section of the connection pin has the shape of a wave

attenuated in a direction leading away from the socket device” as recited in claim 7. The contact pin of Kallee Werner is not attenuated; instead, the amplitudes of the bent portions of the contact pin remain constant. Accordingly claim 7 is allowable for at least this reason.

Additionally, as shown at col. 2, lines 57-64, the contact pin of Kallee Werner is not resilient, instead of resiliency, Kallee Werner relies on the rigidity of the contact pin to maintain a firm contact. Consequently, one skilled in the art would not look to the rigid pin of Kallee Werner to modify the resilient pin of Shigeru because the two pins use conflicting manners of maintaining firm contact. Accordingly, claim 7 is also allowable for at least this reason.

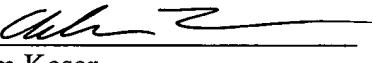
Claims 8 and 11 stand separately rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Shigeru in view of Kurosu (U.S. Patent No. 6,262,584). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections. Similar to Shigeru, Kurosu also fails to disclose or suggest a wave shaped connection pin having a first portion and a second portion having different maximum amplitudes as recited in both claim 1 and amended claim 11. Accordingly, claim 8, which depends from allowable claim 1, and claim 11 are also allowable.

Claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) on Shigeru in view of Kurosu and Isaac (U.S. Patent No. 5,742,170). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Isaac does not disclose or suggest the features discussed above with respect to claim 11, nor has the Examiner cited Isaac as making such a disclosure. Accordingly, claims 12 and 13 are allowable due at least to their dependency on allowable claim 11.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicant petitions for any required relief including extensions of time and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing Docket No. 54382-2003200.

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